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THE

COVENANT

AND

DECLARATION OF FAITH

OF THE

2nd

SECOND CHURCH, DORCHESTER:

Mass.

WITH A

LIST OF ITS MEMBERS.

THE
NEWBERRY
LIBRARY
CHICAGO

"One is your Master, even CHRIST; and all ye are brethren."

BOSTON:
PRESS OF T. R. MARVIN, 42 CONGRESS STREET.
1852.

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DORCHESTER, MASS. SECOND CHURCH.
The covenant and declaration of faith of the Second church, Dorchester: with a list of its members... Boston, Marvin, 1852.
27p.

1428 SHELF CARD NL 38-1701

COVENANT

OF THE

SECOND CHURCH, DORCHESTER:

WITH A

LIST OF ITS MEMBERS.

THE
NEWBERRY
LIBRARY
CHICAGO

COVENANT.

You, —— ——, acknowledging your unworthiness to be in, and inability to keep covenant with God, or to perform any spiritual duty as you ought, unless the Lord do enable you thereto by his Spirit dwelling in you,—Do, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, and in trust and confidence of his free grace assisting you, enter into this holy covenant, freely, sincerely, and solemnly, before God, and his holy angels, and this assembly, wherein you profess and promise—

First, and above all, to take God to be your God, and to cleave to Him as your chiefest and only good.

You profess your belief in the Holy Scriptures, that they were given by inspiration of God, and are the only infallible rule of faith and practice.

You believe that the Father, Son and Holy Ghost are one God, the only proper object of religious worship.

You believe that man was created upright and holy, and that he fell from that happy state by sinning against God,—that, by the fall, all mankind are by nature dead in trespasses and sins, and entirely destitute of holiness,—and continue alienated from God, until renewed and reconciled by the special influence of the Holy Spirit.

You believe that the Lord Jesus Christ has made an atonement for sin, and brought in an everlasting righteousness, so that God can be just, and yet the justifier of every one that believeth in Jesus,—that he is the only Mediator between God and man,—the King and Head of his church,—and convinced that you are a guilty sinner, you desire to submit to him in all the characters with which he is invested for the benefit of the children of men.

You believe the Holy Spirit to be the Renewer, Sanctifier and Comforter of his people; and sensible of your own weakness and depravity, you promise to seek the influences of divine grace to instruct, strengthen and guide you in the way of holiness, and to fit you for the inheritance of the saints in light.

You believe that all true Christians are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

You believe that the happiness of the righteous and the misery of the wicked, after death, will be eternal.

You believe that the Lord Jesus Christ has a visible church in the world, and that the terms of membership are the evidence of a change of heart

by the renewing grace of God, and a credible profession of faith and repentance.

You also believe that God has instituted Baptism and the Lord's Supper as ordinances to be observed in his church to the end of the world.

You do solemnly give up yourself and your offspring to God, determining to renounce sin and obey him forever.

You promise to walk with this church in a due submission to and attendance on all the ordinances of the gospel, and that in your whole conversation and conduct, you will make it your endeavor to practice the rules of our holy religion.

You submit yourself to the watch and discipline, the administrations and censures of this church, so far as they shall be guided by God's holy word.

Of the integrity of your heart, you call God, the searcher of all hearts to witness, beseeching him to assist your sincere endeavors to observe this holy covenant, in all the branches thereof. *Amen.*

Do you thus profess, covenant and promise?

We then, the church of Christ in this place, do, charitably and joyfully, receive you into our communion and fellowship, promising that we will watch over you for your spiritual good, admonish and pray for you, counsel and comfort you, as your circumstances may require, and our acquaintance with you shall permit.

And now, beloved in the Lord, let it be impressed upon your mind, that you have come under solemn obligations from which you can never escape. Wherever you go, these vows will be upon you,—they will follow you to the bar of God, and abide upon you in eternity. You can never be again as you have been. Hereafter the eyes of the world will be upon you. If you walk worthy of your profession, you will be a credit and comfort to us; but, if otherwise, you will be an occasion of grief and reproach. But, beloved, we are persuaded better things of you, and things that accompany salvation, though we thus speak. May the Lord guide and preserve you until death, and may you and we be finally accepted of Him, through the riches of his free grace in Christ Jesus. AMEN.

OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

OF THE

SECOND CHURCH, DORCHESTER.

PASTORS.

JOHN CODMAN, D. D., 1808–1847.
JAMES HOWARD MEANS, 1848.

DEACONS.

STEPHEN BADLAM, 1808–1815.
EBENEZER WITHINGTON, 1808–1815.
JOSEPH CLAP, 1808–1852.
WILLIAM HITCHINGS, 1816–1833.
SAMUEL CAPEN, 1816–1830.
ISAAC HOWE, 1828–1838.
CHARLES HOWE, 1832.
EDWARD SHARP, 1839.
RUFUS HOWE, 1839–1845.
JOSEPH CLAP, Jr., 1846.

MEMBERS.

At the formation of the Church, January 1, 1808, the following were received from the First Church.

Elizabeth Tileston
James Robinson
George Baker
Susanna Baker
Sarah Hall
Abigail McDaniels
Patience Badlam
Elizabeth Tolman
Jonas Tolman
Jonathan Pierce
Mary Pierce
Samuel Withington
Lucy Withington
John Capen
Joseph Clap
Abigail Clap
Nathaniel Swift
Ebenezer Withington, Deacon
Lemuel Withington
Ann Withington
Stephen Badlam, Deacon
Thomas Lyon
Sarah Lyon
Samuel Capen, Jr., Deacon

Waitstill Trescott
Ruth Capen
Ann Tolman
John Capen, 4th
Abigail Philips
Susanna C. Philips, (Edwards)
William Tolman
Elizabeth Tolman, (Snow)
Prudence Blackman
Stephen Robinson
Hannah Robinson
Mary P. Withington
Dorcas Simmons
Richard Trow
Rebecca Trow
John Mellish
Hannah Mellish
Polly Stetson
Samuel B. Lyon
Francis Blanchard
Anna Blanchard
Samuel B. Pierce
Mary Swift
Sarah Swift
Jonathan Pierce, Jr.
Joseph Tolman
Polly Tolman
Joseph Clap, Jr., Deacon
Betsey Clap
Edward Withington
Eunice Withington
Ann Withington, (Bacon)
Isaac Withiington
Mary Withington
Molly White
Ebenezer Davenport
Susannah Davenport
Mary Wilson
Sarah Mellish
Patience Capen

ADMISSIONS.

Those received by *letter* are designated thus, (*l*)

1808.

Jerusha Robinson, *l*
Mary Davenport, *l*
Elizabeth Tucker, *l*
Mary Withington, *l*
Benjamin Simmons, *l*
Atherton Tucker, *l*
Timothy Field, *l*
Katharine Field, *l*
Abel Wheelock
Mehitable Wheelock
Hannah Pierce
James Baker, *l*
Lydia Baker, *l*
John Baker, *l*
Samuel Topliff, *l*
Anna Topliff, *l*
Isaac N. Field, *l*
Joanna Field, *l*
Abigail Leeds, *l*
Jerusha Jones, *l*
Samuel Bird, *l*
William Henly, *l*
Elizabeth Henly, *l*
Sarah Clap, *l*
John Codman, Pastor, *l*
Joshua R. Blake, *l*
Lois Pierce
Hannah Lyon
James Clap

1809.

Persis Crane, *l*
Elizabeth Grafton, (White)
Esther Marshall, *l*
Zebiah Wilson, *l*
Elizabeth Trott, *l*
Catharine Sherburne
Sophia Sherburne, (Withington)
Sarah S. Woodward
James Clap
Elizabeth Clap
Elizabeth Withington
Elizabeth Howe
Haly Pippins, (Rogers)
Charlotte Bourne
Betsey T. Nixon
Ann Gardner
Lemuel Capen
Mary Warren

1810.

Lydia Lewis
Hannah Lewis
Sarah Soren
Dorcas Doak
John Capen, Jr.
Edward Sharp, Deacon
James H. Withington
Thomas Danforth
Sarah Henly
Hannah G. Numen
Rhoda Danforth
Deborah Fields

Elizabeth Foster, *l*
Hannah Lemist, *l*
Elizabeth Davenport, *l*
William Hitchings, Deacon
Hannah Washburn
Polly Fisher
Leonard Withington, (Rev.)
Polly Tolman
Hannah Wentworth, (Crane)
Samuel Page

1811.

Nancy Billings
Christian Baker, *l*
Sarah Foster
Sally J. Soren, (Stimpson)
Richard Crane
Patience Lambert, *l*
Harriot Sherburne, *l*
Alice B. Drake
John White
Sarah White
Abigail Kent, *l*
Christian Kent, *l*
Eunice Onthank
Elizabeth Withington
Hannah Clap, (Tolman)
Susanna C. White, (Griggs)
Clarissa Davenport, (Pierce)
Elijah Jones
Peter Blake

1812.

Suviah Marston, (Howe)
Susannah Hall
Mary Clap, *l*
Azubah Clap, *l*
Edward Foster, *l*
Polly Foster, *l*
Paul Lambert, *l*
Elizabeth Jones
Hannah Lemist, (Clap)
Deborah Page
Thomas Jones
Lucy Gay
Nancy Field
Rebecca Hitchings, *l*

1813.

John Tolman, *l*
Hannah Tolman, *l*
Mary Tolman, *l*
Sally Tolman, *l*
Mary Codman, *l*
Alice Daggett
Elizabeth Swift
Betsey Fisher, (White)
Lydia McElroy
Lucy Davenport, (Blake)

1814.

Joanna Tucker
Ann Manning
Sarah Clap, (Davenport)
Elizabeth Badlam
Mary Sharp
Clarissa Badlam, (Dorr)
Joseph Foster
Catharine Foster
Delight Hayden, (Semple)

1815.

Uriah Smith
Susan Adams
J. S. B. Blake
Sarah Reed

1816.

William F. Williams
Josiah Codding
Susanna H. Clap
Philip Withington, *l*
Catharine M. Withington, *l*
Sarah P. Vose

1817.

William Wilcox, *l*
Huldah Wilcox, *l*
Mather Withington, *l*
Sarah P. Withington,
Hannah Holden, (Topliff) *l*
Enos Tolman
Esther Tolman
Hervey Johnson
Henry Gray
Lydia Baker

1818.

Joseph Wild
Hannah Wild
Molly Richards, *l*
Lucy Savil, (Gillson)
Sarah White
Mary Ann Clap, (Hammond)
Mary Tolman, (Hunt)
Mary P. Withington, (Wadsworth)
Ann Lemist, (Lancaster)

Cephas Houghton
Lemuel Tolman
Mary Tolman
Sarah Gurley
Harriet Melville
William Tucker
Joseph Hunt
Eve Babbitt, *l*
Sarah Pierce, *l*
Susanna Pierce
Rebecca W. Preston, (Balcom)
Hannah M. Wild, (Howland)
Olive F. Payson, (Stowers)
Lucretia Lewis
Sarah Blake
Mary Severns, (Lancaster)
Ebenezer Holmes

1819.

Aaron Bradshaw
Elizabeth Bradshaw
Joshua Tucker
Wealthy Tucker
Lucy Inglee, (Oakes)
Sally Kelton
William Hammond
Jonathan Hammond
Ebenezer Withington
James Carruthers, *l*
Robina Carruthers, *l*
Isaac Howe, Deacon
Frances Howe
Aaron Nixon
Irene Stetson, (Ely) *l*
William M. Rogers
Lydia R. Rogers
Sarah Page, (Williams)
Mary J. Carruthers
Rachel Whitney
Lydia Tolman
Jane Pierce
Calvin White, (Rev.)
William Ropes, *l*
Martha Ropes, *l*
Sally Richards, *l*
Nancy Child, *l*
Lydia Capen, *l*
Martha Cooper

1820.

Edward Preston, *l*
Rebecca Preston, *l*
Ziby Houghton
Mary Houghton, *l*
Anna Topliff, (Church)
Susan F. Adams
Hannah Wales, *l*
Leonard Everett
Nabby Everett
John Tolman
John Wild, (Rev.)
Phebe Temple, *l*
Martha Davenport, (Holmes)
Arethusa Clap, (Leeds)
Seth Gilson
Hannah Lucas, *l*
Hope Atwood
Persis Crane, (Preston)
Hannah D. Wales
Nancy Haynes
Melinda Wilcox, (Wood)

1821.

Ruth Dickerman
Mary Lovell, *l*
Fisher Holmes
Mary Caswell
Nathaniel Holmes
Sylvia Bird, *l*
Dianthe Shaw
Elizabeth Robinson
Lydia Crane, *l*
Ezekiel Tolman, *l*

1822.

Mary White, *l*
Samuel Capen, *l*
Anna Capen, *l*
Mary Adams
Hannah B. Cobb
Rhoda Richardson, (Lewis)
Susanna B. Perry
Jane Baker
Catharine Tucker,
Susanna Pierce
Betsey Calef, (Crane)
Louisa N. Adams, (Clap)
Hannah Adams, *l*

1823.

Charles Howe, Deacon
Lucy Howe
Joseph Clap, Jr., Deacon
Charles Leeds
Betsey Hancock
Fanny Blake
Fanny T. Clap
Otis Holmes, (Rev.)

Whiting Grant
John B. Gilman
Elizabeth Hall, *l*
Paul M. Reed
Mary Reed, (Bruce)
Sarah Preston, (Holmes)
John Oliver
Bartlett Willis
Elizabeth Ridgley, (Symmes)
Nabby Cary, *l*

1824.

Moses Wood, *l*
Anna Savage, *l*
S. M. E. Kittle, (Rev. Mr. Rogers)
Lucretia Smith
Zoa Daillie
Jesse Houghton
Chloe Gay, (Shankland)
Dolly Mayo
Martha Howe
Elizabeth Clap, (Stimpson)
Elizabeth Wetherbee
Mehitable Barlow
Sally P. Wade
Mary Withington
Ruth Dickerman
Lydia Howe

1825.

Eleanor Waters
James Hildreth
Ruth Hildreth
James Penniman
Sarah Penniman
Mary A. Bradford
Foster Thayer, (Rev.)
Harriet Thayer, *l*
Matilda Bullard, *l*
Martha W. Parks, (Bacon)
Mary Tenney
Samuel Mulliken, *l*
William Symmes, *l*

1827.

Jeremiah T. Pratt, *l*
Elizabeth Symmes
Mary Clark
Mary White
Mary Withington, (Warren)
Ann Withington
Louisa Lewis
Elizabeth Ford, (Withington)
Mary Sumner
Hannah Child
Eliza J. Nixon, (Withington)
Thirza Watson
Mary Ann Penniman, (Wolcott)
Alice M. Davis, (Frye)
Jane Pillsbury, (Robinson)
Asenath B. Buswell
Elizabeth Williams
Elizabeth Capen
Mehitable Howe
Mary W. Tolman, (Sumner)
James Semple
John Griggs
John W. Hunt
Elizabeth Minot
Rachel Minot
Fanny Leach
Anna Wetherbee
Abigail M. Baker
Abigail A. Withington
Hannah Wood, (Stover)
Clarissa Howe
Sophia S. Clap, (Robinson)
Henry Clap
Jesse Bradshaw
Josiah Davenport
Benjamin Farrington
Howard Ford
Sarah Toplift, *l*
Mary Nichols, *l*
Sarah White, *l*
John Townsend, *l*
Hannah Stone
Mary Capen, (Robinson)
Charlotte A. Guild, (Hewins)
Sarah Marshall
Mary Trow
Lucy T. Winslow, (Hildreth)
Louisa Danforth, (Ames)
Clement Sumner, Jr.
Christian Bird
Joseph Ford, *l*
Sarah Ford, *l*
Joanna H. P. Capen
Susan Boyden, (Mellish)
Hannah Tolman, (Pope)
Elizabeth Trow
Martha Dunn, (Clark)
Lucretia R. Tolman, (Barney)
Hannah Tolman, (Peck)
John Williams
George Hildreth
Edwin Lemist
Hannah Mellish, *l*

Hannah Holmes, *l*
Rachel Hammond, *l*

1828.

Hannah M. Tolman, (Cook)
Hannah Guild
Eliza A. Maling, (Symmes)
Abigail R. Houghton
Mehitable Wild
Isabella Adams, (Turner)
William Tolman
Charles J. Adams
Charles B. Adams
Sophia Hildreth, *l*
Huldah Wilcox, (Allen)
Eunice T. Nixon
James Foster
Rachel Foster
Joanna Foster

1829.

Catharine Stone, *l*
Joshua Tucker, *l*
Wealthy Tucker, *l*
Wealthy T. Tucker, (Ross) *l*
Elizabeth S. Hawes, *l*

1830.

Ann L. Clap, (Harris)
Azubah C. Clap
Sarah Leeds, (Townsend)
Eliza P. Capen, (Labaree)
Sarah B Field, (Baxter)
Mary Ann Field, (Lambert)
Hannah Foster, (Tolman)
Rachel Tolman
Sarah Ford
Caroline Ford, (Foster)
Mary W. Preston, (White)

1831.

Harriet Marshall
James Leach, *l*
Ann Leach, *l*
Sarah Wiswall
Lois H. Taylor
Clarissa Hook, (Petty)
Rachel E. Cooper
Mary E. Cooper, (Housen)
Abigail W. Crane
Rachel H. Crane
Electa Crane
Mary Stevenson
Luke Putnam
Richard Tolman, (Rev.)
Lucy Howe, *l*
Elizabeth Gorham, *l*
Mary Ann Howe, *l*
Martha Howe, (Ripley) *l*
Ann W. Dean, *l*
Sarah Bird, *l*
Abigail Baker
Adah Willis
Christian Brazier
Polly Perry
Aurelia Capen, (Buck)
Sarah Briggs, (Poole)
Mary Baker
Lydia Payson
Dorothea W. Garner, (Hill)
Anna Williams, *l*
Mary Howe
Sarah Wood
Sophia V. Willis, (McElroy)
Elizabeth D. Stone, (Denny)
Rufus Howe, Deacon
Sophia Howe, *l*
Elbridge G. McElroy
Nancy Mansfield, *l*

1832.

Hester Fobes
Polly Mellish
Mary L. Tower, (Jones)
Mary F. Capen, (Partridge)
Joseph Leeds
Otis Nichols
Theophilus C. Clap
Hannah McDaniels
Mary Tolman
Elizabeth Houghton
Margaret Howe Brown
Margaret R. Codman, (Peabody)
Edward Hill
John C. Clap
Henry H. Penniman
Frances E. Gray
Eunice Johnson
Mary Edson
Elizabeth S. Bull
Jane Murdock, *l*
Nancy Davenport, *l*
Sarah Howe, *l*
Hannah Edson, *l*
Mary Ann Leach, (Leeds)
Lois Trescott
Susannah L. Howe, (Jones)
Sophia V. Bacon

Betsey C. Hancock, *l*
Amanda Wilcox, (Partridge)

1833.

Uriah Balkam, (Rev.)
Lucy Cushing, (Bryant)
Maria A. Howe, (Pierce)
Clarissa Tolman, (Wakefield)

1834.

Daniel Leeds
Ann Corbet
Mary Williams
Sarah Wild
David Baker
Esther Dickey, *l*
N. N. Gleason, *l*
Mary Kimball
Catharine Capen
Catharine F. Stone
Sarah Tolman
Hannah B. Tolman
Lucy P. Tolman
Catharine C. Everett, (Goss)
Harriet S. Clap
Elizabeth Collins, (Reed)
Edward Jones
George Leeds, (Rev.)
William R. Bradford
James C. Sharp
Hannah Ford, (Martins)
Diadema Wiswall, (Hall)
Abigail T. Wilder, *l*
Sarah Hale, (Burpee)
Harriet Clap, (Reed)
Susanna B. Clap, (Gordon)
Caleb Hill
James Hildreth, *l*
Martha Hildreth, *l*
Susanna Baker
Ann R. Payson, (Ripley)

1835.

Sarah E. Severns, (Adams)

1836.

Elizabeth Gunnison
Rebecca T. Gleason
Gustavus W. Hawes
Sarah L. Hawes
Betsey B. Capen
Elizabeth Carter
Mary Jane Crane
Abigail Howe, (Gleason)
Stephen Tolman, Jr.
Hiram W. Blanchard, *l*
Mary A. B. Howe, *l*
Hannah H. McElroy
Caroline Clap, (Woodward)
Jane Williams
Cordelia Tremlett
George Trufant
Joseph W. Foster
Andrew B. Foster, (Rev.)
Abigail Trufant, *l*
Eliza A. Symmes, *l*

1837.

Mary G. Monroe
James Bryant
John Foster
Elizabeth Ann Jones
Caleb Pillsbury, *l*
Elizabeth Pillsbury
Elizabeth W. Blanchard
Catharine D. Lee, *l*
Harriet B. Field, (Cooper)
Mary E. Capen
Mary Jane Howe, (Hill)
Abigail A. Trufant
Abel Hewins, *l*
Anna Hewins, *l*

1838.

Jane Clap
Lydia Withington
Patty Sloan
Lucy A. Blake, (Clap)
Abigail A. Tolman, (Davenport)
Catharine Riley, (Sumner)
Susan L. Salisbury
John Tolman, *l*
Hannah Hoven
Mary Murphy
Ann Haynes
Sarah Capen
William M. Blake

1839.

Ebenezer Curtis
Susan W. Curtis, *l*
Mary Ann Murphy, (Staten)
John Griggs, *l*
Susan Griggs, *l*
Thomas M. Vinson, *l*
Hephzibah Vinson, *l*
Barzillai Paine, *l*
Mary Ann Paine, *l*

William P. Snow, *l*
Hannah Snow, *l*
Azubah Remick, (Perry) *l*
Sarah Hill, *l*
William K. Vaill, *l*
Lucy Turner, *l*
Maria Tolman, (Richards)
E. Harriet Howe, *l*
Mary H. Burt
Rebecca Baldwin, *l*
Dolly C. Baldwin, *l*
David Clap

1840.

Enos Howe
Samuel Hildreth
Joseph Pillsbury
Louisa Pillsbury
Sarah C. Perry
Catharine Colburn
Lydia Door
Mary E. Stone
Sarah E. Howe, (Sharp)
Anna S. Bird
Mary E. Tolman
Louisa R. Cooper, (Radcliffe)
Emily Collins, (Gallagher)
Mary A. Capen, (Tolman)
Catharine Rogers
Charles P. Tolman
Sarah Wiswall, (Tolman)
Albert Tolman
John L. Capen
James G. Young
George M. Wilder, *l*
William Storey, *l*
James B. Hill
Elizabeth Hill
Lucy Grover, (Morse)
Elizabeth Wiswall, (Wilder)
Joshua H. Wilder
Samuel B. Hildreth
Nathaniel H. Snow
Hannah L. Clap, (Kendall)
Mary Houghton
Nancy J. Wilder
Isaac H. Fish
Henry S. Bird
Lydia C. Tolman, *l*

1841.

Mary B. Churchill, *l*
John C. Hewins
Samuel S. Trott
Hannah Robinson, *l*
Mary W. Robinson, *l*
Maria Palmer, *l*

1842.

Catharine Foster
Ann Tolman
George W. Haley
Rosina S. Haley
Robert Hill
Sally Hill
Mary P. Withington
Elizabeth T. Chase, (Faas)
Susan Wayland
Sarah W. Tolman
Augustus Tufts
Benjamin Drake
Abel Hewins, Jr.
Jonas P. Tolman
Ellis Houghton
William Gallagher
John F. Cass
William J. Davis
Edward S. Howe
William Harris
Joseph Grover
Samuel G. Wood
James Foster, Jr.
Thomas Murphy
Isaac S. Houghton, Jr.
John Oliver, Jr.
Samuel Williams
Andrew Collins
William E. Tolman
Edward P. Abbe
Daniel Grover, *l*
Sarah Grover, *l*
Eleanor H. Grover, (Fish)
Persis Storey, *l*
Stephen Wales, *l*
Lydia V. Wales, *l*
Harriet Chase, (Pierce) *l*
Samuel Savil
Mary Savil
Rachel F. Wood
Rachel R. Robinson
Abigail H. Everett, (Axtell)
Benjamin H. West, *l*
Elizabeth A. West, *l*
Sarah Cutler, *l*

1843.

Asa Robinson
Orin Hildreth

Ruth Hildreth, *l*
Sarah D. Child
Caroline Henss
Charlotte F. Howe, (Perkins)
William Wales

1844.

Louisa Miller
Miriam Houghton
Elisha Hunt, *l*
Mary Hunt, *l*
Phebe Blackman, *l*
Lyman Cutler, (Rev.) *l*

1845.

Lois Draper
Lucinda Draper
Harriet B. Hunt, *l*

1846.

Frances E. Gray, *l*

1847.

Amasa Davenport
Charlotte Plaisted, *l*
Elizabeth A. W. Wales, *l*
Abigail Morton, *l*
Abigail L. Morton, *l*
Charles Grimmons, *l*
Lusanna Tucker, *l*
Lucy T. Pronk, *l*
Caroline S. Tolman, *l*

1848.

James H. Means, *l*, Pastor
Nathan Carruth, *l*
Sarah A. Carruth, *l*
Marianna Carruth, *l*
Frances W. Howe
Mary J. Williams
Ellen C. Williams
Louisa A. Clap
Hannah C. Tolman, (Foster)
Mary A. Hammond
Eveline J. Sloan
Barzillai Paine, *l*
Mary A. Paine, *l*

1849.

Eliza B. Hughes, *l*
Maria Brown, *l*
John Martins, *l*
Hannah Martins, *l*
Harriet A. Gleason, (Newcomb) *l*
P. G. Hodgdon, *l*
Susan W. Tolman
Martha L. Howe
Anna P. B. Nixon, (Sharp)
Julia A. Young, *l*
Charlotte A. Means, *l*

1850.

Nancy Oliver
Polly Pidge, *l*
Mary E. Davis
Jane Anderson
Mary Collins
Rachel A. Foster
Suviah L. Foster, (Elder)
Mary Foster, (Hersey)
Mary Jane Adams
Emeline L. Tolman
Elizabeth Tolman
Mary Clark, *l*

1851.

Elbridge G. McElroy, *l*
Sophia V. McElroy, *l*
George E. Delano
Myra Preston
Ann Maria Preston, (Mrs.)
Ann Maria Preston, (Miss)
Sarah S. Rideout
Sarah S. Wetherbee
Rachel B. Robinson
Sarah Pierce, *l*
Mary F. Loring, *l*
Maria A. Clap
Abby N. Pidge
Augusta B. Hughes, (Brown)
Sarah J. Williams
Eliza W. Williams

1852.

Elijah Cutler
Margaret A. Paine
Anna J. Leeds.

PRESENT MEMBERS.

1852.

[† Designates non-resident members.]

Miss Mary J. Adams
Mrs. Jane Anderson
Mrs. Abigail H. Axtell †

Mrs. Ann Bacon
Mrs. Martha W. Bacon
Mrs. Rebecca W. Balcom
Miss Abigail M. Baker
Mrs. Phœbe Blackman
Mr. Peter Blake
Mrs. Fanny Blake
Mrs. Lucy Blake
Mrs. Elizabeth Bradshaw †
Mr. Jesse Bradshaw †
Mrs. Maria Brown
Mrs. Augusta B. Brown †
Mrs. Aurelia Buck †

Miss Ruth Capen
Mr. John Capen
Mrs. Lydia Capen
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HISTORICAL SKETCH.

The town of Dorchester was settled in 1630, by a company of Christians, who, with their pastors, Rev. John Wareham and Rev. John Maverick, emigrated from England for the enjoyment of greater civil and religious privileges. In 1636, Mr. Maverick died, and Mr. Wareham, with most of his church, removed to Windsor, Connecticut.

Previous to their departure, a new church, (still existing as the First Church,) was formed, under the pastoral care of Rev. Richard Mather, one of the most eminent ministers of his time, and the principal author of the "Cambridge Platform."

During the ministry of the eighth pastor of this Church, Rev. Dr. Harris, on account of the increasing population of the town, it became necessary to form a Second Society; and a meeting-house having been built, on the 1st of January, A. D. 1808, the Second Church, consisting then of sixty-four members, was duly organized; Rev. John Pierce, of Brookline, preaching on that occasion.

On the 7th of December following, Rev. John Codman was ordained the first pastor. Rev. William E. Channing preached the sermon, from the words: "Be instant in season and out of season."

Soon after difficulties arose, owing to a difference in doctrinal sentiment between the Pastor and some of the Church and Society, which resulted in the withdrawal of about twenty members in 1813.

In 1827, the Church was strengthened by the addition of fifty-four converts. In 1829, twenty-one members were dismissed, and formed into a new Orthodox Church, which took the name of the Village Church. In 1840, thirty-three were added to the Church upon profession of faith, and in 1842, thirty-five; of whom twenty were young men.

On the 23d of December, 1847, the long and devoted ministry of Dr. Codman was terminated by his death, in the sixty-seventh year of his age, and the fortieth of his ministry. The records show that he attended 649 funerals; solemnized 295 marriages; baptized 783 persons, 702 of whom were infants; and was permitted to welcome to the fellowship of the Church, 639 members, 482 of whom were received by profession. Of those who were connected with the Church at his ordination, only eleven remained at the time of his death.

On the 13th of July, 1848, Rev. James H. Means was ordained the second pastor of the Church.

From the beginning, 785 have been connected with this Church, of whom 520 have here first professed their faith. Eleven of its members have entered the ministry. Over 220 have been removed from its membership by death; about 240 dismissed to other churches. The present number of members is 302; sixty of whom are non-residents.

DEACON'S ORDINATION CHARGE.

The following Charge was first used in 1724, by Rev. John Danforth, then Pastor of the First Church, Dorchester. It is inserted here, because delivered by Dr. Codman, at the induction into office of the Deacons chosen during his ministry.

The glorious King of the Church and world, the Son of God, our Lord Jesus Christ, instituted the holy office of Deaconship by inspiration to his Apostles in the primitive church, and appointed that even the Gentile churches should have men, qualified as he has specially directed, chosen unto and invested with the sacred office.

Although the office of Deaconship is ecclesiastical and sacred, yet is it specificated and limited unto the temporal good things of the Church, which are offered and dedicated unto the house and service of God for the uses of piety and charity.

Of the Church's outward treasure, of all offerings and gifts given to the Church for the supply of outward need—the care and management belongs to the Deacons; and therewith the Deacons are to supply the tables which the Church is to provide for,—viz. the Lord's table and the tables of such as are in necessity, to whom they are to distribute in simplicity and singleness of heart.

Ordination is the solemn committing of office ecclesiastical, unto persons to whom that office doth belong; the solemn putting of them into the actual possession of

that place, station, dignity, trust and charge in the Church of God that they were chosen to, and had accepted of.

Wherefore, the Church of Christ in this place having chosen you, our dear brother, unto the office of Deaconship, and you having accepted thereof,—

We do,—in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Head of the Church in heaven and on earth, ordain you to be a Deacon of this Church, and put you into possession and administration of that holy and honorable office of Deaconship, in which you are to conjoin our beloved brethren who were in office before you.

And, forasmuch as God hath set you up in this Church not to be a Lett, but to be an Help,—we solemnly charge you to watch and to pray, and to labor all that you can, that you may promote and further all religion, and virtue, and charity, and peace, and beneficence among us; and uprightly, and prudently, and faithfully, and with great humility, and yet with liberty and holy courage, and without fear, and without partiality, and in singleness of heart as towards God, discharge, not only every part of your work as a Christian, but also every part of your office as a Deacon, accountably to God and our Lord Jesus Christ, to your own conscience, and to the Church by the help of Christ.

And we assure you for your comfort, that so using and discharging the office of a Deacon well, by the grace and help of your glorious Lord and ours, you will, though without any proper merit of your own, yet of God's infinite mercy, purchase or gain, or obtain to yourself a good degree and great boldness in the faith. And, when the great Shepherd shall appear, you shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away. AMEN.

DIRECTIONS

TO THOSE COMMENCING A RELIGIOUS LIFE.

MOSTLY SELECTED FROM VARIOUS AUTHORS.

REMEMBER that the Christian life is to be like "the light, which shineth more and more unto the perfect day." Therefore, when the hope of pardon dawns in the heart, do not consider the great business of life as accomplished, but only as begun.

Ever strive to maintain great earnestness in religion. Remember that you need *daily* to repent, confess your sin, cast yourself in faith on Christ, seek pardon and grace; as you did, when you first gave yourself to the Lord.

Seek evidence of piety not so much in high emotions of any kind, as in real humility, sorrow for sin, desires for righteousness, and a constant effort to regulate your daily life by the will of God.

Do not expect to find in your own experience, every thing you have heard or read of in the experience of others. "There are diversities of operations, but it is the same God, which worketh all in all."

If troubled by doubts, look away from yourself to the infinite grace of God in Christ; and seek earnestly for new light, and a renewed experience of his love. "Then shall ye know, if ye follow on to know the Lord."

Do not be afraid of indulging in feelings which seem to be right, from the fear that you are self-deceived. Go forward, and do your whole duty, and God will save you from deception while thus employed.

Expect not to be made very happy by religion, unless you become eminent in piety. A half-way Christian enjoys neither the pleasures of the world, nor the pleasures of religion.

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Do not look at the practice and example of other Christians, but at the word of God, in forming the standard of piety at which you aim. Consider not what professors of religion are, but what they should be.

Do not suffer a day to pass, without reading the Bible with devout attention. Strive also to obtain clear and full conceptions of the great doctrines there revealed.

Never omit for a single day the duty of secret prayer. Make known to God every doubt and fear; and ask, in submission to his will, with earnestness and faith, for each blessing you desire.

If you sincerely think you are a Christian, and the Church are satisfied with the evidence of your piety, it is your duty to make a public profession of your faith.

Prepare for that most solemn act by much meditation, self-examination and prayer. Then go forward, not in your own strength, but trusting that "He, who hath begun a good work in you, will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ."

QUESTIONS

FOR

SELF-EXAMINATION.

THE solemn obligations of the Covenant have been deliberately assumed by every member of this Church; they cannot be thrown off; he that 'openeth his mouth unto the Lord, cannot go back.' It is, therefore, most important that Christians should often examine themselves, whether they 'walk worthy of their vocation;' especially as is enjoined by Paul, (1 Cor. xi. 28,) in preparation for the Lord's Supper.

The following questions, designed to aid them in this duty, are earnestly commended to the members of this Church.

Do I keep sufficiently in mind that I am not my own? that I have given myself to God in an everlasting covenant?

Do I make daily efforts, in reliance on the promised aid of the Spirit, to overcome all sin, to grow in grace? Is the standard at which I aim, the perfect holiness of God, or the state of devotedness commonly seen in the Church?

Am I faithful in the performance of the private duties of religion; in reading the Bible, in devotional retirement? Do I enjoy the hours thus spent? Under their influence, do my faith and hope and love steadily increase?

What is the influence of my example on those around? Does it prove to the unconverted that there is reality and power in religion? What do those who know me best, think of my piety?

Is the Church strengthened by my connection with it? Am I deeply interested in its prosperity? Do I take my part in sustaining its meetings? Would I rather suffer, if need be, than be the occasion of injury to it?

Do I love the brethren; watch over them for their spiritual good; help them forward in the Christian life? Is the law of kindness on my tongue?

Do I attend constantly on the services of the sanctuary? Do I join regularly and gladly in the commemoration of my Saviour's dying love? In the Sacrament, do I solemnly renew my covenant with God?

If a parent, are my children baptized, instructed in the truth, daily commended to God in prayer, and educated for eternity?

Do I love the souls of sinners? Do I feel for them? Do I pray for them? Is there one to whom I am faithful; for whose conversion I feel constant anxiety?

Do I strive to 'do good to all, as I have opportunity?' Am I ready to deny myself for this purpose? Is it a pleasure to contribute for the advancement of Christ's kingdom? What proportion of my income do I devote to the Lord?

For strength to perform all these and other duties, do I depend solely on divine aid? And after I have done all, do I trust in Christ alone for salvation?

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